

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 150

By Windle

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the good people of Morgan County on the occasion of the county's bicentennial celebration.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause in its deliberations to join with the cities and counties that comprise this great State in celebrating joyous and historic occasions; and

WHEREAS, bountiful and beautiful Morgan County and its citizens are most assuredly deserving of special recognition, as they celebrate this year the bicentennial anniversary of the county's founding; and

WHEREAS, after treaties opened the area up for settlement in 1805, the scenic wilderness of Morgan County was primarily settled by Revolutionary War veterans who had received land grants from North Carolina for their military service; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly established Morgan County on October 15, 1817; named in memory of Revolutionary War hero General Daniel Morgan, it was the thirty-ninth county established by the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the original county seat was the community of Montgomery, named in honor of Major Lemuel P. Montgomery, a Knoxville resident killed in the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in 1814; upon a vote of 195 to 149 on March 26, 1870, the county seat was moved to Wartburg, where it remains to this day; and

WHEREAS, in addition to Wartburg, other flourishing municipalities in the county are Oakdale and Sunbright; Morgan County is also home to several outstanding unincorporated communities where neighbors are treasured and strangers are welcome, including Burrville, Chestnut Ridge, Deer Lodge, Joyner, Lancing, Mossy Grove, Rugby, and Coalfield; and

WHEREAS, offering adventure for all seasons, Morgan County residents and visitors alike can go hiking, canoeing and kayaking, rock climbing, hunting and fishing, and horseback riding, among other things, at Frozen Head State Park and Natural Area, Obed Wild and Scenic River, Catoosa Wildlife Management Area, Lone Mountain State Forest, and the Cumberland Trail State Park; and

WHEREAS, an area rich in resourceful individuals as well as natural resources, Morgan County has a long tradition of agriculture, mineral mining, and tourism, providing and ensuring the harmonious relationship between nature and industrialization and achieving a cherished way of life for the citizens of Morgan County and its visitors; and

WHEREAS, Morgan County is home to a host of destinations of historic interest and import, including the Stonecipher-Kelly House, the Historic District of Rugby, the Morgan County Courthouse, the Morgan County Archives, and the infamous Brushy Mountain Prison, which once housed some of the most notorious convicted felons in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in October, the county will hold a special celebration of its past, its present, and its future in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the county's founding; this singular celebration will showcase Morgan County's unique heritage and spirit, its wonderful blend of commerce and hospitality amidst its idyllic scenery, and the deeply held love of community and boundless energy and spirit of its people, which have been passed down from one generation to the next; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee takes great pride in the accomplishments of Morgan County and is grateful for the positive impact the county has on the State's economy and the special place it has won in the hearts of its citizens and millions of visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, Morgan County is one of the great counties in Tennessee, and it is most appropriate that the members of this legislative body honor this fine community and its citizenry as they commemorate this significant milestone in their historic existence; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate the citizens of Morgan County upon the celebration of the county's bicentennial and extend to them our best wishes for continued success, growth, and prosperity in their outstanding community, which is a true Tennessee treasure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.